

# CITY OF HAM LAKE

15544 Central Avenue NE  
Ham Lake, Minnesota 55304  
(763) 434-9555  
info@ci.ham-lake.mn.us

## CITY OF HAM LAKE CITY COUNCIL AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY WORKSHOP MEETING MINUTES MONDAY, JULY 15, 2024

The Ham Lake City Council met for a workshop meeting on Monday, July 15, 2024 at 5:00 p.m. in the Conference Room at the Ham Lake City Hall located at 15544 Central Avenue NE in Ham Lake, Minnesota.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Mayor Brian Kirkham and Councilmembers Jim Doyle, Al Parranto and Jesse Wilken

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Councilmember Gary Kirkeide

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Finance Director, Andrea Murff; City Attorney, Mark Bergland; City Administrator, Denise Webster; and Deputy City Clerk, Dawnette Shimek

### 1.0 Call to Order

Mayor Kirkham called the meeting to order at 4:58 p.m.

### 2.0 Discussion of the 2025 Law Enforcement Contract with the Anoka County Sheriff's Office

Anoka County Sheriff Wise, Chief Deputy Bill Jacobson, and Lieutenant Anthony Mendoza were present. Lieutenant Mendoza started conversations regarding the Law Enforcement Contract with the Anoka County Sheriff's Office asking for an 0.5 Full-time Equivalent (FTE) Patrol Investigator. Lieutenant Mendoza stated there was a comparison made of Ham Lake and Andover, since they have similar, and the number of cases needing an Investigator from January 2023 through June 2024. Lieutenant Mendoza stated during that period Andover had 200 assigned cases and were contracted with 2 Patrol Investigators while Ham Lake had 187 assigned cases and were only contracted with a partial Patrol Investigator. Lieutenant Mendoza stated when looking at Blaine and Spring Lake Park Police Department layouts, Andover is more on par with the workload since there are typically 90-120 workable cases per Investigator. Lieutenant Mendoza added Ham Lake has the second highest caseload within their contracted cities. Lieutenant Mendoza offered two options with the Patrol Investigator addition stating the City could do a delayed start of July 1<sup>st</sup> of a full-time Patrol Investigator creating the 0.5 FTE addition or the City could add a 1 FTE Investigator.

Councilmember Parranto inquired about pooling with other contracted cities to share the cost. Lieutenant Mendoza responded that our case count is taking up more than 1 FTE of a Patrol Investigator and that with a Patrol Investigator there would be additional services the City could receive such as background checks for Tobacco, Liquor, and Soliciting Licenses. City Attorney Bergland also stated having a Patrol Investigator is a good resource when it comes to prosecuting and makes it more efficient.

Councilmember Wilken wanted to know where a 0.5 FTE Patrol Office would come from. Lieutenant Mendoza responded that if we did a 0.5 FTE for the full year this person would be split between Ham

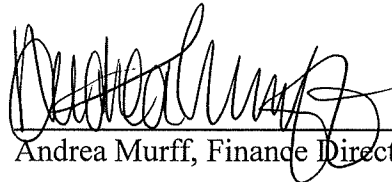
Lake and either the City of Bethel or the Anoka County Courthouse. Sheriff Wise added that having a Patrol Investigator also helps build relationships with the community and every victim of the crime wants to be heard.

Mayor Kirkham inquired about current backlogs in investigations. Lieutenant Mendoza responded he did not have real numbers at this time, but there are items pending and that the overall calls for service increased from 5,800 ten years ago to 9,100 in 2023. Lieutenant Mendoza continued that there was also a cut in patrol 10 years ago, but it was due to the change in shift times going from 8 hours to 12 hours. Mayor Kirkham also wanted to know how the contract would change if it was for 1 FTE Patrol investigator opposed to 0.5 FTE. Lieutenant Mendoza stated they would run the figures and provide that information.

Councilmember Doyle wanted to know how the Patrol investigator would be selected. Lieutenant Mendoza responded that the selection would be based on quality of work as well as their training and work experience.

Conversations then turned to Deputy wage negotiations and if they were captured in the contract. Sheriff Wise responded that negotiations were still happening, however, the proposed contract reflected a 5% increase, which is his best estimate at this time based on what is happening at other Police Agencies.

**Motion by Doyle, seconded by Parranto, to adjourn the meeting at 5:38 p.m. All present in favor, motion carried.**



Andrea Murff, Finance Director